GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
LAW AND JUSTICE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5218
ANSWERED ON:05.04.2017
Reservation for Women in Judiciary
Butta Smt. Renuka

Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of women judges working in different High Courts;

(b) the percentage of women judges in the Judiciary;

(c) whether the Government is taking any steps to increase the number of women judges in various High Courts and if so, the details thereof; and

(d) whether there is any proposal to provide reservation for women in the appointment of High Court Judges and in Lower Judiciary?

Answer

ANSWER
Minister of State for Law and Justice and Electronics and Information Technology.
(SHRI P.P. CHAUDHARY)
(a) to (d) : There are 69 Women Judges working in different High Courts as on 29.3.2017, which in percentage terms is 10.86% of working strength. Appointment of Judges of the Supreme Court and High Courts is made under Articles 124 and 217 of the Constitution of India respectively. These Articles do not provide for reservation for any caste or class of persons. There is no proposal to provide reservation for women in the appointment of High Court Judges. The Government has, however been requesting the Chief Justices of the High Courts that while sending proposals for appointment of Judges, due consideration be given to suitable candidates belonging to Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes, Other Backward Classes, Minorities and Women. The appointment of Judges in the Lower Judiciary is in the domain of State Governments.